

Amendments to the claims:

8. (currently amended) A device for automatically switching lighting devices in a vehicles, having comprising,

a sensor device (20) ~~by which for detecting~~ the light intensity in the surroundings of the vehicle ~~is detected, ;~~

~~wherein the sensor device (20) has~~ at least one global sensor (22) provided in the sensor device for nondirectionally detecting , by which the general light intensity in the surroundings of the vehicle; ~~is detected nondirectionally and which has~~

at least one directional sensor (24) provided in the at least one global sensor for directionally detecting , by which the light intensity is detected ~~directionally,~~ at least approximately in the travel direction (14) of the vehicle, ~~and having ;~~

an evaluation device (30) ~~, by which for comparing the current~~ signals (S1, S2) of the sensors (22, 24) of the sensor device (20) ~~are compared with the~~ threshold values (SE), ~~and wherein~~ if at least one of the threshold values (SE) is undershot, the lighting devices (10, 12) are switched on, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein at least indirectly, the current temperature of the sensor device (20) is detected and a signal (ST) pertaining to it the current temperature is delivered to the evaluation device (30);

~~that a memory, wherein~~ in the evaluation device (30), temperature-dependent basic signals (S10, S20) of the sensors (22, 24) of the sensor device

(20) are stored in the memory without incidence of light incidence, and that wherein by means of the evaluation device (30), a correction of the current signals (S1, S2) of the sensors (22, 24) of the sensor device (20) and/or of the threshold values (SE) is effected in accordance with the basic signals (S10, S20).

9. The device of claim 4 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein by means of the evaluation device (30), ~~the~~ a rate of change (dS/dt) of the signals (S1, S2) of the sensor device (20) are ascertained, and that wherein the threshold values (SE) are varied as a function of the rate of change (dS/dt) of the signals (S1, S2), in such a way that at a high rate of change (dS/dt), the threshold values (SE) are higher than at a low rate of change (dS/dt).

10. (currently amended) The device of claim 4 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein by means of the evaluation device (30), the threshold values (SE) are varied as a function of the absolute values of the signals (S1, S2) of the sensor device (20), in such a way that for a signal (S1, S2) that is decreasing from a high absolute value, the threshold values (SE) are higher than for a signal (S1, S2) that is decreasing from a low absolute value.

11. (currently amended) The device of claim 4 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the evaluation device (30) is supplied with a signal (SG) for ~~the~~ a current speed of the vehicle, and that wherein the processing of the signals (S1, S2) of the sensors (22, 24) of the sensor device (20) by the evaluation device

(30) is effected in clocked fashion as a function of the speed of the vehicle, in such a manner that the processing at high speed is done at a higher clock frequency than at low speed.

12. (currently amended) The device of claim [4] 11, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the clock frequency is varied as a function of the speed in such a way that ~~the~~ a distance the vehicle covers between successive processing cycles is ~~at least~~ approximately constant.

13. (currently amended) The device of claim 4 8, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein a further sensor device (34) for detecting precipitation is provided, by which wherein a signal (SR) is generated at least indirectly by said further sensor device and delivered to the evaluation device (30), and ~~that~~ wherein by the evaluation device (30), a variation in the threshold values (SE) is effected in such a manner that the threshold values (SE) are higher ~~in the presence of~~ when precipitation is present than when ~~in the absence of~~ precipitation is absent.

14. (currently amended) The device of claim 6 13, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the signal (SR) generated at least indirectly by the further sensor device (34) is dependent on the intensity of the precipitation, and ~~that~~ wherein by means of the evaluation device (30), a variation in the threshold values (SE) is effected in such a manner that the threshold values (SE) are higher at high intensity of the precipitation than at low intensity of the precipitation.